

NEWS RELEASE



a division of the
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC INFORMATION SECTION, P.O. Box 1368, Jefferson City, MO 65102

Colonel Jerry E. Adams, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Jefferson City, Missouri

With the passing of Mandatory Boating Safety Education for boat operators recently, the Missouri State Water Patrol will be offering ***BOAT MISSOURI*** courses over the next several months in various locations throughout the State.

Here's WHAT is covered in the ***BOAT MISSOURI*** course:

1. General information concerning boats and maintenance.
2. Information to make your boating experience safer and more comfortable.
3. Tips on how to be a more courteous boat operator.
4. Laws and regulations to which you must adhere.

10/07/03& 10/09/03	7PM–9PM Both Nights	Jerry Litton Center	16311 DD Hwy North, Smithville, MO, 64089
10/11/03	8AM–3PM	Wappapello Corps of Engineers Visitor Center	10992 Hwy T, Wappapello, MO, 63966
10/11/03	9AM–2PM	Lake Ozark Fire Department	Business 54, Lake Ozark, MO, 65049
10/11/03	9AM–4PM	Boudreaux Center Mark Twain Lake	21629 Hwy J, Monroe City, MO, 63456
10/11/03	9:30 AM–5PM	Tesson Ferry St. Louis County Library	9920 Lin Ferry Dr., Concord Village, MO, 63129
10/11/03	9AM–5PM	Truman Visitors Center	Rt. 2, Box 29A, Warsaw, MO, 65355
10/25/03	9AM–4PM	Missouri State Water Patrol GHQ	2401 E McCarty Street, Jefferson City, MO, 65101
11/01/03	9AM–4:30PM	Dewey Short Visitors Center	Hwy 165, Branson, MO, 65616
11/08/03	8AM–3PM	Wappapello Corps of Engineers Visitor Center	10992 Hwy T, Wappapello, MO, 63966
03/02/04& 03/04/04	6PM–9PM Both Nights	Gibson Vo-Tech	Hwy 13, Reeds Spring, MO, 65737
04/17/04	9AM–4:30PM	Dewey Short Visitors Center	Hwy 165, Branson, MO, 65616

The contents of the ***BOAT MISSOURI*** course is also approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) as both a boat and personal watercraft (PWC) safety course and is recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Boat operators born after January 1, 1984 must meet the mandatory requirement and will have to carry onboard a card issued by the Water Patrol proving they have met the requirements of the law. There are several methods in which an operator can take the approved courses. The following is a list of those methods.

- Take one of the courses listed above.
- Order an online course by going to www.mswp.state.mo.us and follow the tabs.
- Call 1-800-830-2268 to order a home study course.
- Take an approved course from another state.
- Take a NASBLA approved U.S. Coast Guard or U.S. Power Squadron course.

There is not a fee for this course. A paper certification card will be issued from MSWP General Headquarters after the registration information is received. The card will be mailed to the student's home. Beginning in February 2004, a plastic certification card will be issued at a cost of \$15.00 per card and \$10.00 for replacement cards. These cards will be more durable and longer lasting in the boating environment.

Colonel Jerry Adams, Commissioner of the Missouri State Water Patrol, recommends that all boat operators regardless of age take a boating safety course.

Watch the Missouri State Water Patrol homepage at www.mswp.state.mo.us for updates on Boating Safety Courses and News Releases in your area.

For further information contact: Sergeant Paul E. Kennedy, Director
Public Information & Safety Education
Phone: (573)-751-3333
Fax: (573)-522-1287
E-mail: pkennedy@mswp.state.mo.us
Number of Pages: 2

Home Page <http://www.mswp.state.mo.us>